

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of William R. Kennedy et al.

Art Unit 3673

Serial No. 10/706,190

Filed November 12, 2003

Confirmation No. 5982

For Mine Door System with Trigger-Actuated Latch Mechanism

Allowed March 3, 2008

Examiner Kristina Rose Fulton

May 23, 2008

AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 1.312

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,

SIR:

Please enter the following amendment(s) into the record of this case under the provisions of Rule 1.312:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

DO NOT ENTER: /K.F./

05/29/2008

In the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0005] with the following amended paragraph:

[0005] In one aspect, ~~apparatus of~~ this invention is directed to a combination of a mine stopping and a door system for closing a doorway in [[a]] the mine stopping. The system comprises a door hinged adjacent the doorway for swinging relative to the stopping between a closed position and an open position swung outwardly away from the stopping, and a keeper mounted in fixed position relative to the doorway. The system further comprises a trigger-actuated latch mechanism including a detent engageable with the keeper for latching the door in its closed position and a trigger operably connected to the detent in a latched position. The detent in the latched position is biased toward an unlatched position. The mechanism is constructed and configured so that actuation of the trigger causes the detent to move from [[a]] latched position in which the detent engages the keeper for latching the door closed to ~~an~~ the unlatched position in which the detent is disengaged from the keeper for allowing the door to be opened.

Please replace paragraph [0007] with the following amended paragraph:

[0007] In yet another aspect of the present invention, the trigger-actuated latch mechanism includes a quadrilateral linkage mounted on the door. The detent is on the linkage and is engageable with the keeper for latching the door in its closed position. The mechanism includes a trigger bar having a sear for receiving the detent and holding the detent in the latched position. Actuating the trigger causes the detent to move from a latched position in which the detent engages the keeper for latching the door closed to an unlatched position in which the detent is released from the sear for allowing the door to be opened.

In another aspect, this invention is directed to a door system adapted for closing a doorway in a mine stopping. The door system comprises a door adapted to be hinged adjacent the doorway for swinging relative to the stopping between a closed position and an open position swung outwardly away from the stopping, and a keeper adapted to be mounted in fixed position relative to the doorway. The system further comprises a trigger-actuated latch mechanism including a detent engageable with the keeper for latching the door in its closed position and at least two triggers operably connected to the detent in a latched position, one of the triggers being located on an inward side of the door and the other trigger being located on an outward side of the door so that the latch mechanism is operable from both sides of the door. The detent in the

latched position is biased toward an unlatched position. The mechanism is constructed and configured so that actuation of either of the triggers causes the detent to move from the latched position in which the detent engages the keeper for latching the door closed to the unlatched position in which the detent is disengaged from the keeper for allowing the door to be opened. The latch mechanism includes a sear for holding the detent in the latched position, and actuation of the trigger causes release of the detent from the sear.

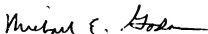
In still another aspect, this invention is directed to a door system adapted for closing a doorway in a mine stopping. The door system comprises a door adapted to be hinged adjacent the doorway for swinging relative to the stopping between a closed position and an open position swung outwardly away from the stopping, and a keeper adapted to be mounted in fixed position relative to the doorway. The system further comprises a trigger-actuated latch mechanism including a detent engageable with the keeper for latching the door in its closed position even during movement of the keeper relative to the door, and a trigger operably connected to the detent in a latched position. The detent in the latched position is biased toward an unlatched position. The mechanism is constructed and configured so that actuation of the trigger causes the detent to move from the latched position in which the detent engages the keeper for latching the door closed to the unlatched position in which the detent is disengaged from the keeper for allowing the door to be opened. The latch mechanism includes a sear for holding the detent in the latched position, and actuation of the trigger causes release of the detent from the sear.

CONCLUSION

The summary section is amended to better track the language of the allowed amended claims.

Inasmuch as the above amendments are merely formal in nature, raise no new issues and require no substantial amount of work by the Office, it is submitted that they should be entered.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael E. Godar", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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